



*Informing Professional Geologists  
of the events and developments  
that affect their profession*

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## Your Board Members

Randall Scott Babcock, PhD, LG  
Chair • *Bellingham*

Jeffery Randall, PhD, LG, LHG  
Vice Chair • *Preston*

Ron Teissere, LG  
Secretary • *Olympia*

Reese Hastings, LG, LHG, JD  
Member • *Bremerton*

Ken Neal, LG, LEG  
Member • *Olympia*

Dawne Gardiska-Sherpard  
Public Member • *Olympia*

### Staff

Joseph Vincent Jr.  
*Administrator*

Emma Butler  
*Program Representative*

Elizabeth Stancil  
*Secretary Administrative*

Brett Lorentson  
*Management Analyst*

## New Geologist Web Site Design Focuses On Customers

Coming soon DOL will have a new, improved web site to assist your search when looking to answer some of your Geologist licensing questions.

The design for DOL's new Web site was created through a process called "user-centered design." This process gathers data about how DOL's customers use the Website, what they understand, what confuses them, and how they see DOL as an agency. We used the data we collected from talking with customers and watching them work with our current Website to design the new site so they can find information and use online services quickly and easily.

The new site will look quite a bit different from the current one. Instead of being organized according to our internal business structure, it is divided into categories suggested by customers. Acronyms and agency lingo are being replaced with the words our customers use. Updated graphics will make the site more inviting, and improved technology will make the site available to a wider range of customers. The focus on our customers' needs is working. When customers tested the new Website, about 80% of them successfully found what they were looking for. This is a tremendous improvement over the current site, where only 50% of users found what they were looking for. One customer commented, "I could find my way around it real easily."

Now that the basic design has been proven with customers, the Web redesign team is working on editing content and building the pages for the new Web site. Our new Web site will help DOL serve customers more efficiently and strengthen its reputation as an agency dedicated to providing excellent customer service.

*Administrative services are provided to the Board by the Department of Licensing. The Department and the Board have a policy of providing equal access to its services. If you need special accommodation, please call (360) 664-1497 or TTY (360) 664-8885.*

## Geologist Licensing Board

As a licensee or a stakeholder, you may be interested in how the Geologist Licensing Board ("Board") is constituted, what powers it possesses and where and how often it meets. Established in RCW 18.220.030, the seven-member Board includes six licensed geologists and one public member, all of whom are appointed by the Director of the Department of Licensing to four-year terms. The seventh member is the State Geologist. Board members must have at least ten years of experience in the practice of geology to be eligible for appointment to the Board. Two of the members must be licensed in a specialty recognized by the Board. The public member may not have a professional or financial affiliation with a geologist.

Initial Board appointment terms were staggered the first year of the program to ensure that no more than two Board members' terms expired in one year.

**R. Scott Babcock, PhD, LG, Chair**, a resident of Bellingham, is the academic representative on the board. He is currently Chair of the Department of Geology at Western Washington University. He has been teaching and conducting research in geochemistry at the university since 1967. Scott's 3-year term expires on May 1, 2008.

**Jeffery H. Randall, PhD, LG, LHG, Vice Chair**, a resident of Preston, represents hydrogeologists on the board. He is a Principal Hydrologist with Ch2M HILL in Bellevue, Washington.



The Geologist Licensing Board newsletter is published quarterly. If you, or someone you know, would like to receive a copy of this publication, please contact us at:

**Mailing address:** PO Box 9045 • Olympia, WA 98507-9045

**Street address:** 405 Black Lake Blvd. • Olympia, WA 98502

**Phone:** (360) 664-1497

**Fax:** (360) 664-1495

**E-Mail:** [Geologist@dol.wa.gov](mailto:Geologist@dol.wa.gov)

**Web site:** [www.dol.wa.gov/design/geofront.htm](http://www.dol.wa.gov/design/geofront.htm)

The information in the newsletter is being made available to you as a public service by the Washington Geologist Licensing Board and does not constitute legal or professional advice. Neither the Board, nor any agency, officer, or employee of the state of Washington, warrants the accuracy, reliability, or timeliness of any information in this newsletter. Any opinions expressed in the articles are those of each author. It is the responsibility of each licensee to know, and comply with the laws relating to Geologists.

He had five years of teaching and research at the University of Arizona before joining CH2M HILL in 1978. Work in the United States and abroad has included hazardous waste, solid waste, water resources, and water supply projects. Jeff's 4-year term expires on May 1, 2009.

**Ron Teissere, LG, Secretary**, an Olympia resident, serves as an *ex officio* member of the Board. He is the State Geologist and Division Manager for the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geology and Earth Resources. Ron has been employed by the Department of Natural Resources for the past 17 years in mineral resource, land management, contract management, aquatic resource, and geology work. Since 1965, Ron has been employed by several corporations engaged in mineral, coal, and hydrocarbon exploration and development in geological, land management, and managerial positions. Ron's appointment is set in statute, so his term is indefinite.

**Reese P. Hastings, LG, LHG, JD**, a resident of Bremerton, is a geologist, hydrogeologist and attorney. He is a member of the Oregon State and American Bar Associations, and the Northwest Mining Association (Past Secretary and Trustee). He has over 22 years of combined geologic, legal, and regulatory project management experience in domestic and international resource development projects. He directs technical and regulatory components of mineral and water resource valuation, project feasibility studies, and resource-specific environmental services performed by Hastings & Associates, Inc. He also performs project due diligence, land title review, project financing evaluations, project permitting and reclamation. His 3-year term expires May 1, 2008.

**Kenneth G. Neal, LG, LEG**, resident of Olympia, represents engineering geologists on the Board. He is also registered as a geologist and certified engineering geologist in Oregon, and is certified by the Department of Natural Resources Forest Practices Division in Watershed Analysis. He has 29 years of experience in the engineering geology profession, including 17 years with the USDA Forest Service and 10 years as the owner of a small consulting business. He also works intermittently as a disaster assistance employee with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Ken served a two-year term on the Board and was reappointed to a four-year term that expires May 1, 2007.

**Dawne Gardiska-Shepard**, a resident of Olympia, and the public representative on the board. She is currently a program planner with the Department of Ecology and has been with the agency for over 15 years. Prior to planning, she provided public involvement support within the agency. In addition to working for Ecology, she was a teacher in Seattle for several years. She has a BS from Western Washington University in Industrial Design. Dawne's four-year term expires on May 1, 2009.

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## Geologist Board Vacancy

Department of Licensing Director Liz Luce will be making an appointment to the Geologist Licensing Board in the near future to fill an upcoming vacancy on the Board. This appointment will be for a board member. Interested candidates for this vacancy need to meet the following criteria:

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Be a resident of the state of Washington.
- Hold a valid registration as a Geologist in Washington.
- Be actively engaged in the practice of geology for at least ten years, five of which shall have been immediately prior to appointment.

The purpose of the Geologist Licensing Board is to provide consumer protection to the general public through the licensing of Geologists. Meeting dates, times, and locations are decided by the Board and administrative staff, but there are generally four (4) meetings per year. Board meetings are open to the public, with the exception of executive sessions to address personnel or disciplinary matters. Regular attendance at meetings is essential. Members are reimbursed for certain expenses related to traveling to and from Board meetings, and are paid a nominal "salary" of \$50.00 per day for the time spent at meetings and for the work done outside of meetings on Board business. Members spend approximately eight (8) hours per month on

Board business. If you are interested in applying for the position, future Board positions, or have any questions about the work Board members perform, please contact Joe Vincent Jr., Administrator, [jvincent@dol.wa.gov](mailto:jvincent@dol.wa.gov) or fax: 360-664-1495. You may also contact Elizabeth Stancil, Secretary Administrative, 360-664-6597 or [estancil@dol.wa.gov](mailto:estancil@dol.wa.gov).

## Board Meetings

The Board holds four regular meetings a year, and a number of special meetings throughout the year.

The 2006 meeting schedule is:

**August 8:** Olympia

**November 14:** Olympia

*The 2007 meeting schedule will be determined at the November 2006 meeting.*

You are invited to attend Board meetings and give Board members feedback on issues related to licensure. The meeting times and room locations can be accessed on the geologist website address at:

**[www.dol.wa.gov/design/geofront.htm](http://www.dol.wa.gov/design/geofront.htm)**

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## Business and Professions Staff Updates

The Geologists Board welcomes two new staff members who will strengthen the Board's services:

**Elizabeth Stancil**, *Secretary Administrative*  
**Brett Lorenston**, *Management Analyst*

### Staff Recruitment:

The Department of Licensing is currently recruiting for a Program Manager which will directly assist the Geologist Board. This position will provide additional expertise to maintain areas that are working well, and providing support in areas of need.

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## Initial License Renewal Notice

After a recent program review the Geologist Board staff recently discovered that some licensees overpaid their initial Geologist license fees. The identified licensees include those who received their initial licenses between the dates of January 21, 2005 and February 23, 2006. In most cases these licensees paid the application fee as well as an initial license fee. It appears that due to change in rule, WAC 308-15-150, the fee being requested was no longer applicable. These licensees will be receiving a refund check in the amount of overpayment. The Board recognizes that the laws, rules, and fees can be confusing at times. Please contact the Board staff for any issues that may need clarification. We are here to assist you.

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## Geologist Licensing Fees Suspension

As of March 1, 2006 the Geologist Board suspended and replaced the previously charged annual renewal fees. (See Table Below) This reduction is a temporary suspension of fees. The suspension of fees has been created to ensure that the fees collected from licensees may establish an optimum balance between revenues and expenditures for the licensing program. This action has been taken to ensure collection of sufficient revenues to administer the program with a modest fund balance as a "safety net".

Title of Fee	Old Fees	New Fees
Renewal (1 year)	\$100	\$20
Late Renewal Penalty	\$200	\$40
1 Specialty Renewal Fee	\$85	\$25
1 Specialty Renewal with Penalty	\$170	\$50
2 Specialty Renewal Fee	\$170	\$50
2 Specialty Renewal Fee with Penalty	\$340	\$100

Questions about the fee structure can be directed to the Board staff at (360) 664-1497, or refer to WAC 308-15-150 Fees.

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## Washington State Board Of Registration For Geologists

### Licensing Activity Statistical Information for the reporting period of 7/1/2005 to 6/1/2006

Reciprocity applications processed ..... 15  
Exam applications processed..... 39  
Licenses granted ..... 54

### Examination Statistics

October 2005 Exam	Examinees	Passed	Failed
Fundamentals of Geology	23	15	8
Practice of Geology	21	19	2

### LICENSE STATUS AS OF 06/1/2006

Active Washington Licenses..... 1,285  
Active Out-of-State Licenses ..... 828  
Total Active Licenses..... 2,113

March 2006 Exam	Examinees	Passed	Failed
Fundamentals of Geology	29	25	4
Practice of Geology	27	25	2



# *Congratulations!*

The Board would like to welcome all new Washington State Geologist Licensees during the period of October 2005 through April 2006.

## **Examination Licensees**

Amanda Magee	Dana Ertel	Jeffrey Speck
Andrew Caneday	David Busser	Jessica Robertson
Andrew Nicholls	David Mitchell	Kelly Woodworth
Annika Allen	Elaine Dilley	Melissa Downes
Barry Wright	Eric Ferguson	Natasya Gray
Brian Magee	Eric Heller	Paul Fry
Brian Richardson	Erik Gerking	Peter Pearson
Brian Whiting	Gerald Ladd	Robert Blomquist
Christopher Allen	Gregory Myers	Robert Richardson
Christopher White	Isabelle Lamb	Robert Scartozzi
Cole Warrick	Jason Cass	Scott Riegel
Craig Bechtold	Jason Woodward	Simon Kline
Dana Divine-Packard	Jay Chennault	Zanna Satterwhite

## **Reciprocity Licensees**

Bruce Eppler	Laura Menken
Colin Polk	Marc Hachey
Craig Burns	Norman Read
Daniel Vellone	Rebecca Andresen
Deems Padgett	Richard Spindler
James Farrow	Shannon Logan
Kevin Broom	Ulf Gwildis
Kyle Rheubottom	

## News From The Board

### Recent Graduates Encouraged to take Fundamental of Geology Exam Early

It is now possible to take the Fundamentals of Geology part of the ASBOG exam immediately after completing the minimum educational requirements for licensure. Other states have reported individuals taking the exam early received much higher passing rates compared to completing the experience requirements and taking both parts of the exam together. Each part of the exam is four hours long. To apply to take the Fundamentals of Geology exam, you must provide the Geologist Licensing Board with a certified copy of your transcripts, sent directly from your college or university. You will also need to complete the licensure application form and pay the application fee of \$100. You will not need to submit employment and experience verification documents or personal references at this time. Contact the Geologist Licensing Board for further information.

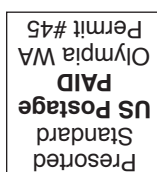
## Future Board Activities

### Engineering Geology Report Guidelines

During their November 2005 meeting, the Geologist Licensing Board appointed a committee to draft guidelines for engineering geology reports. The committee, consisting of Dave Parks (Chair), Bill Laprade, Mark Molinari, Jon Koloski, and Ken Neal (Board Representative), has just completed preparing draft guidelines, which were mailed out for comments to licensed engineering geologists in Washington. Copies were also sent out via the AEG Washington State Section e-mail list for early distribution. Following receipt of comments, the committee will meet, revise the guidelines as appropriate, and submit them to the board for adoption consideration at their August 8, 2006 meeting.

### Notice:

The Board has made a decision to produce two newsletters per year. Please let us know what information you would like to have included in future newsletters.



Geologists Licensing Board  
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